IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL904791397US

Applicant

Nobuo Ogasawara

Application No.:

to be assigned

Filed

: October 9, 2001

Title

: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING EXPIRATION-DATED

PRODUCTS UTILIZING AN ELECTRONIC RECEIPT

Docket No.

: 47410/JEC/F179

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 October 9, 2001

Commissioner:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 6, please add the following header and paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of application No. 09/400,124, filed September 21, 1999, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. By this preliminary amendment, Applicant has added the section of the specification entitled "Cross Reference to Related Applications" to claim priority of the parent application Ser. No. 09/400,124. In view of the above amendment Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and a timely indication of allowance.

Docket No. 47410/JEC/F179

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "<u>Version with markings to show changes made.</u>"

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By

Josephine E/Chang

Reg. No. 46,083 626/795-9900

JEC/daa

DAA PAS386033 1-*-10/9/01 10 30 AM

Docket No. 47410/JEC/F179

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

The following section has been added.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of application No. 09/400,124, filed September 21, 1999, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

DAA PAS386033 1-*-10/9/01 2 33 PM